

Dear Distinguished Members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee,

My name is Veronica T. DeLandro, I am a voter from New Britain. Passing both S.B. 184 and H.B. 5262 (Continuing Absentee Voting in 2022 due to COVID19) is extremely important to me now as it was back in February 2021 when I submitted a written testimony in support of House Joint No. 58 and No. 59. The fact that we have to continue to propose bills that allows us to continue AB voting confirms the fact that Connecticut continues to lag behind our neighboring states across the country when it comes to voter access. We still have some of the strictest laws in the country where absentee voting is restricted to specific situations. I believe voters should be able to vote this year by absentee ballot as COVID19 persists. Please continue the COVID19 safety measures of 2020 and 2021 for 2022 and allow for everyone who fears exposure to COVID19 to vote by absentee ballot.

More than 650,000 Connecticut voters voted by absentee ballot in the 2020 CT General Election—which means they voted early on their own schedules. This led to record-breaking 80% voter turnout. Listen to the voters, the choice is clear. Please protect the freedom to vote and pass S.B. 184 and H.B. 5262.

Sincerely,

Veronica T. DeLandro

New Britain, CT